THE GĪLAKĪ DIALECT

BY

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Introduction.

Prior to my journey to Persia I was under the impression that although dialects were many, there was only one language spoken throughout Persia, but my tour proved that the fact was otherwise. Every province has got a distinct dialect of its own—sometimes there are more than one in the same district, and often a local dialect is so different from standard Persian as to merit the name of a language. Frequently we find the townsmen have largely adopted the standard speech with slight local modifications, but the country-side round about is still conservative and sticks to the pure form of the old dialect or language : thus bringing about a marked difference between city and vulgar speech throughout the whole of Persia generally. (This is happening in North India too : the city people are speaking more and more better Hindusthani—Urdu or Hindi—but the country-side round about, say Agra and Lucknow, Allahabad and Benares, and Patna, still preserve the old dialects.) I might mention a few dialects, the peculiarities of which I observed in some parts of Persia during my sojourn :—

1. Sabzawār has its own dialect called Sabzawārī, which for a common observer is a bit difficult to distinguish.

2. Semnān has a special dialect called Semnānī.[1] The peculiarity of this dialect is that it is said to contain words of classical Greek origin. This is due to the fact that the Greeks had colonised in a town Hecatompylus, out of which the present Semnān has developed.

3. The dialect of Māzandarān[2] like Gīlakī has its independent existence and is spoken throughout Māzandarān.

4. The Tālish dialect is spoken in Tālish and its surroundings. This dialect is also somewhat akin to Gīlakī.

5. Gīlakī[3] is the dialect spoken in preference to Persian at Rasht, Bandar Pahlavi, Lahijan and the villages situated on the bank of the Safid Rud.

6. Shemīrānī dialect is prevalent amongst the mountainous people of the Albruz.

7. The Persian Zoroastrians of Yazd have a dialect of their own. It is called *Darī*.

8. Kirmānī dialect is spoken in Kirmān and its neighbourhood.

9. Tibsī dialect is prevalent in Tibs and Bushariya.

10. There was a dialect in Azerbaijan, now it is spoken only in a village near Tabriz. It is known by the name of Harand.

Besides these speeches which are generally described as *dialects* of Persia, there are other ***languages*** spoken within the frontiers of Persia. Kurdish is an important Iranian language, a sister-speech of Persian, and this is spoken by a good many tribes in Western Persia. But the Kurds who are Persian subjects invariably learn and use Persian. There are some Turki speakers, and some Arabs also besides Beluchis, who are Iranians just like the Kurds and the Persians proper.

It will require a number of specialists to study properly these dialects and find out their relationship among themselves and with Standard Persian. That should be the business of the Persian people mainly, and when the new University is established at Tehran, I am sure Persian research students will take up this great work of linguistic survey of Persia as a preliminary to the writing of a detailed philology of the Iranian speech.

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[1] *Vide* Semnān Dialect, by Houtum-Schindler, Vol. XXXII, Z.D.M.G., 1878, pp. 535-541.

[2, 3] *Vide* Essai sur les dialects de Mazanderan et Gilan, by G. Melgounof, Vol. XXII, Z.D.M.G., 1868, pp. 195-224.

At Rasht I studied the Gīlakī dialect which is quite an interesting speech. I am giving a short account of it together with some texts I received, largely by the courtesy of Mr. Kesmāī who is quite an accomplished poet in this dialect. In Geiger's *Grundiss* some account of Gīlakī along with other dialects has been given ; still I hope the present study will be interesting to English readers, if only for the texts in both prose and verse. I give my notes as an independent study of the speech.

The Gīlakī dialect or the language now spoken in Gīlān is a branch of the Iranian family. The people of Gīlān were the last to adopt Islam ; they were comparatively isolated. Their dialect went on changing gradually, but till recently it was not much exposed to Arabic influences. Arabic words in plenty has crept into it through Standard Persian. Still a great many pure Iranian forms and words are preserved in Gīlakī which one does not find in Standard Persian. The local people are quite proud of their dialect, and they always speak it at home, even the highly cultured among them. It is, however, a great pity that no serious book has as yet been published in Gīlakī, although a few Gīlkaī poems have appeared in Arabic characters. Besides, popular poems are current among the people which are waiting to be written down and collected. There is a movement now at Rasht itself to bring the language to life again, giving it some literary prestige. Mr. Kesmāī, a veteran poet in Gīlakī and other young writers are composing poems in Gīlakī and publishing them in Arabic characters. Till now no prose has appeared, and there is no newspaper in it. The children learn at school only Persian. A competent scholar should compile a good grammar and a dictionary of this interesting speech. I utilised my short stay at Rasht for preparing a little book of Gīlakī grammar.

The account of the dialect in Geiger or in any other book **was** then not within my reach.

General Observations.

1. The signs of the Infinitive are :—

(a) دَن (*dan*); as : کودن (*kūdan*) = To do.
(b) تَن (*tan*); as : نِشتن (*nis̲h̲tan*) = To sit.
(c) اِن (*en*); as : زِاِن (*ze-en*) = To beat.
(d) آن (*ān*); as : ارنان (*ūnān*) = To put.
(e) وُن (*ūn*); as : شُوُن (*s̲h̲u-ūn*) = To go.

2. الف (*alif*) is suffixed to a noun for vocative case as in Persian; as : کِلِکا (*kelekā*) = O girl !

3. There is no distinction of gender in pronouns, verbs and adjectives, precisely as is the case with Persian.

4. Prepositions are postpositions; as :

استکانِ میان (*istikān-i-miyān*) = In the cup.

5. مضاف الیه (*muẓāf ilaih*), *i.e.*, possessives are used before مضاف (*muẓāf*), *i.e.*, nouns possessed and a کسرهٔ (*kasreh*) is given to the last letter of the مضاف الیه (*muẓāf-ilaih*), *i.e.*, possessives, provided that it is a noun ending in consonant ; as :

پرویزِ پر (*Parvīz-i-per*) = Parviz's father.

If the noun ends in a vowel, no کسرهٔ (*kasreh*) is given.

6. Diminutive is formed by suffixing کاف (*kāf*) to a noun as in Persian but it is very commonly used in Gīlakī.

7. Adjectives are used before the nouns qualified ; as :

سفیدهٔ قاز (*Sifīd-i-Kāz*) = White duck.

خورُم گپ (*K̲h̲ūrūm Gap*) = Happy talk.

8. As in Sanskrit, words mostly end in the vowel ـَ (*fatḥeh*) pronounced as *eh*. ه (*ha*) is added to such words so that the ـَ (*fatḥeh*) may be distinctly pronounced; as:

خومَه (*khumeh*) = Nest.
مرغانَه (*Murghāneh*) = Egg.
سُرفَه (*Surfeh*) = Cough.

9. The Plural of nouns is formed by the addition of آن (*ān*); as:

جقل (*jaḳal*) = Child. جقلان (*jaḳalān*) = Children.

10. The cardinal numbers excepting number one which is ایتا (*Ītā*) are similar to those of Persian, only تا (*tā*) being suffixed to every Persian number; as:

دو تا (*du tā*) = Two;
سه تا (*seh tā*) = Three;
چار تا (*char tā*) = Four;

and so on.

Pronouns.

Nominative.

	Singular.					Plural.				
	Gīlakī.		Persian.			Gīlakī.		Persian.		
First Person ...	من or مو	***Man*** or ***Mu***	من	***Man***	I	أما	***Amā***	ما	***Mā***	We
Second Person ...	تو	***Tu***	تو	***Tu***	Thou	شما	***Shumā***	شما	***Shumā***	You
Third Person ...	أون	* ***Ūn***	أو	***Ū***	He, she or it.	أوشان	***Ū-shān***	أوشان	***Ū-shan***	They

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* Its Persian form is آن and is only used as demonstrative adjective for distance, whereas in Gīlakī it is used both as demonstrative adjective and demonstrative pronoun.

*Possessive.**

	Singular.			Plural.		
	Gīlakī.			Gīlakī.		
First Person ...	مي	*Mi*	My	أمه	*Ameh*	Our
Second Person ...	تي	*Ti*	Thy	شِمِه	*Shimeh*	Yours
Third Person ...	أوني	*Ūni*	His or her	أوشانه	*Ushēneh*	Their

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* The Persian form is not mentioned here because the Nominative forms are used with kasreh (ِ) of Izāfat to the last letter of the nouns possessed. This may be due to the influence of the Arabic language over the Persian, as in Arabic Possessives (مضاف اليه) always follow the nouns possessed (مضاف). In Gīlakī just like English or French the possessive pronouns are used before the nouns possessed, which rule is observed in old Persian. Also it may be noticed that in Gīlakī the possessive pronouns ending in ى (*i*) in the singular and ه ِ (*eh*) in the plural very well suggest to be the older form of the possessive kasreh ِ applied to the last letter of the noun possessed preceding the possessive. Kasreh is given to the last letter of the possessive and not of the noun possessed, *viz.*, پرويزِ پر (*Parvīz-i-per*), *i.e.*, Parviz's father.

Objective.

	Singular.			Plural.		
	Gīlakī.	Persian.		Gīlakī.	Persian.	
First Person ...	مِرا ***Merā***	مَرا ***Marā***	Me	آمِه را ***Amehrā***	مارا ***Mā-rā***	Us
Second Person ...	تِرا ***Terā***	تُرا ***Turā***	Thee	شُمِه را ***Shumeh-rā***	شمارا ***Shumā-rā***	You
Third Person ...	اُونا ***Ūnā***	اُو را ***Ūrā***	Him, her or it	اُشانِه را ***Ushaneh-rā***	اُشان‌را ***Ūshān-ra***	Them

Oblique.

	Gīlakī.	Persian.		Gīlakī.	Persian.	
First Person ...	جِمِه * ***Jemeh***	از من ***Az man***	From me	جِه آمِه ***Je-ameh***	از ما ***Az mā***	From us
Second Person ...	جِتِه ***Je-teh***	از تو ***Az tu***	From thee	جِه شُمِه ***Je-shumeh***	از شما ***Az shumā***	From you
Third Person ...	جِخُو ***Je-khū***	از او ***Az ū***	From him, her or it	جِه خُوشانِه ***Je-khūshāneh***	از اوشان ***Az ushān***	From them

* جِ (*Je*) or جِه (*Jeh*) means از (*Az*), *i.e.*, from; as : جِمِه واپُرسِه (*Jemeh wāpurseh*) meaning he may

Reflexive.

	Singular. Gīlakī.	Singular. Persian.		Plural. Gīlakī.	Plural. Persian.	
First Person ...	من مرِه *Man mereh*	من خودم *Man khūdam*	Myself	آما اِمرِه *Amā amereh*	ما خود مان *Ma khūd-i-mān*	Ourselves
Second Person ...	تو ترِه *Tu tereh*	تو خودت *Tu khūdat*	Thyself	شما شُمرِه *Shuma Shumereh*	شما خود تان *Shumā khūditān*	Yourselves
Third Person ...	اون خُورِه *Ūn khūreh*	او خودش *U khūdash*	Himself, herself or itself	اوشان خُوشانِره *Ūshan khūshanereh*	اوشان خود شان *Ūshan khūd-i-shān*	Themselves

Interrogative.

Gīlakī.		Persian.		
كي	*Kī*	كه	*Keh*	Who

Demonstrative Adjective.

	Singular. Gīlakī.		Singular. Persian.			Plural. Gīlakī.		Plural. Persian.		
For nearness ...	آن	*An*	این	*In*	This	آشان	*Ashān*	ایشان	*Īshān*	These
For distance ...	اُون	*Ūn*	آن	*An*	That	اُوشان	*Ushān*		*Ūshān*	These

VERBS (افعال).

Conjugation (گردان).

Verb ‘ شؤن ’, *i.e.*, to go.

Past Indefinite (ماضي مطلق).

		Singular.			Plural.		
First Person	...	بشوم	***Bishūm***	I went	بشيمي	***Bishīmī***	We went
Second Person	...	بشي	***Bishī***	Thou wentest	بشيدى	***Bishīdī***	You went
Third Person	...	بشو	***Bishū***	He or she went	بشيدى	***Bishīdī***	They went

Recent Past, i.e., Present Perfect* (ماضي قريب).

First Person	...	كرا شوئيمي	***Karā shuīmi***	I have gone	كرا شوئيمي	***Karā shuīmī***	We have gone
Second Person	...	كرا شوئي	***Karā shuī***	Thou hast gone	كرا شوئيدي	***Karā shuīdī***	You have gone
Third Person	...	كرا شوئي	***Karā shuī***	He or she has gone	كرا شوئيدي	***Karā shuīdī***	They have gone

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* According to Arab Grammarians the Present Perfect Tense is a sub-division of the Past Tense and is termed ماضي قريب (*Māzī Karīb*), *i.e.*, Recent Past.

Past Perfect (ماضي بعيد).

	Singular.			Plural.		
First Person ...	بشو بوم	*Bishū būm*	I had gone	بشه بيم	*Bisheh bīm*	We had gone
Second Person ...	بشه بي	*Bisheh bī*	Thou hadst gone	بشه بيد	*Bisheh bīd*	You had gone
Third Person ...	بشه بو	*Bisheh bū*	He or she had gone	بشه بيد	*Bisheh bīd*	They had gone

Past Continuous (ماضي استمراري).

First Person ...	شُؤُن دو بوم *Shu-ūn dū būm*	I was going	شُؤُن دی بيم *Shu-ūn dī bīm*	We were going
Second Person ...	شُؤُن دی بي *Shu-ūn dī bī*	Thou wast going	شُؤُن دی بيد *Shu-ūn dī bīd*	You were going
Third Person ...	شُؤُن دو بو *Shu-ūn dū bū*	He or she was going	شُؤُن دي بيد *Shu-ūn dī bīd*	They were going

Dubious Past (ماضي احتمالي).

	Singular.		Plural.	
First Person ...	اکر بشو بیم ***Agar bishū bīm***	If I went	اکر بشو بیم ***Agar bishū bīm***	If we went
Second Person ...	اکر بِشِه بی ***Agar bisheh bī***	If thou wentest	اکر بشو بید ***Agar bishū bīd***	If you went
Third Person ...	اکر بِشِه بی ***Agar bisheh bī***	If he or she went	اکر بشو بید ***Agar bishū bīd***	If they went

Aorist (مضارع).

First Person ...	شِم ***Shim***	I go	شِمی ***Shimī***	We go
Second Person ...	شی ***Shī***	Thou goest	شیدی ***Shīdī***	You go
Third Person ...	شِه ***Sheh***	He or she goes	شیدي ***Shīdī***	They go

Future (مستقبل).

	Singular.		Plural.	
First Person ...	خایم شون *Khāyem shun*	I shall go	خایمي شون *Khāyimī shun*	We shall go
Second Person ...	خائى شون *Khāyī shun*	Thou wilt go	خائیدي شون *Khāyīdī shun*	You will go
Third Person ...	خایه شون *Khāyeh shun*	He or she will go	خائیدی شون *Khāyīdī shun*	They will go

VOCABULARY

NOUNS.

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
پر	*Per*	پدر	*Pidar*	Father	Melgounof spells it as پییر (*Peer*).
مار	*Mār*	مادر	*Mādar*	Mother	
برار	*Barār*	برادر	*Berāther*	Brother	
خالخور	*Khākhūr*	خواهر	*Khāwhar*	Sister	Melgounof spells it as حاحور (*Ḥaḥūr*).
زنای	*Zanāi*	زن	*Zan*	Woman	
مردای	*Mardāī*	مرد	*Mard*	Man	
پیچا	*Pichā*	گُربه	*Gūrbeh*	Cat	
پُرد	*Pord*	پُل	*Pul*	Bridge	
گب	*Gab*	حرف	*Ḥarf*	Gossip	
لباس	*Libās*	رخت	*Rakht*	Dress	It is an Arabic word crept into Gīlakī.
آب	*Ab*	آب	*Āb*	Water	
چهشني	*Cheshnī*	گنجشک	*Gunjishk*	Sparrow	
گیس	*Gīs*	موی سر	*Mūy-i-sar*	Tresses	In Sanskrit we have केश (*Kaish*).

NOUNS—*Contd.*

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
جا	*Jā*	محل	*Maḥal*	Place	
خُوس	*Khūs*	سُرفه	*Surfeh*	Cough	
چچ	*Chach*	خزه	*Khazeh*	Moss	
رهه	*Rehe*	پسرک	*Pisarak*	Small boy	
کلک-کُرّ	*Kelek* or *Kur*	دخترک	*Dukhtarak*	Small girl	
جقل	*Jakal*	بچّه	*Bachcheh*	Child	
بج	*Bej*	برنج	*Biranj*	Rice	Melgounof spells it as بج (*Betch*).
مُچّه	*Machcheh*	زنخ	*Zanakh*	Chin	
رو	*Ru*	رخ	*Rukh*	Countenance	
دیم	*Dīm*	صورت	*Ṣūrat*	Face	
ارزانه	*Arzāneh*	غبغب	*Ghab-ghab*	Double chin	
چشما	*Chashmā*	چشم	*Chashm*	Eye	
دار	*Dār*	درخت	*Darakht*	Tree	

NOUNS—*Contd.*

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
كونه	*Kuneh*	بوته	*Buteh*	Shrub	
خومه	*Khumeh*	آشيانه	*Āshiyāneh*	Nest	
مرغانه	*Murghaneh*	تخم مرغ	*Tukhm-i-murgh*	Egg	
ناؤ	*Nāu*	كرجي كوچک	*Karaji-i-kūchak*	Canoe	
سو	*Su*	روشنائي	*Raushanāi*	Light	
درز	*Darz*	شكاف	*Shigāf*	Hole	
ناخوشي	*Nā-khūshī*	مرض	*Marẓ*	Illness	
جان ساقي	*Jān-sāḳī*	تندرستي	*Tan-durustī*	Good health	
دوچوک	*Duchuk*	موۀ كه از پوست جداً نميشود	*Miwah-i-keh az pūst juda nu-mīshavad.*	A fruit from which the skin cannot be separated.	
كَلاپتري	*Kalāpatrī*	حرف مزخرف	*Ḥarf-i-muzakhraf*	Nonsense	
كار	*Kār*	شغل	*Shughl*	Work	
ور	*War*	پهلو	*Pahlū*	Side	
فاندِر فُوندِر	*Fānder-fūnder*	جستجو	*Justjū*	Search	

NOUNS—*Contd.*

Gilakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
واپرس فَپرس	*Wāpurs-fapurs*	تحقیق	*Taḥḳiḳ*	Investigation	
ونگ	*Wang*	گریه	*Giryeh*	Weeping	
خنده	*Khandeh*	خنده	*Khandeh*	Laughing	
تم تول بزه	*Tam-tūl-bezeh*	سکوت محض	*Sukūt-i-maḥaẓ*	Perfect silence	
کوچزای	*Kūchzai*	بچهٔ کوچک	*Bachcheh-i-Kūchik*	Baby	
گاز	*Gāz*	دندان	*Dandān*	Tooth	
پالو	*Pālū*	پهلو	*Pahlū*	Side	
پاتن	*Pātan*	کف پا	*Kaf-i-Pā*	Sole of foot	
مانده	*Māndeh*	گوساله	*Gūsāleh*	Calf	
گامش	*Gāmish*	گاومیش	*Gāvmīsh*	Buffalo	
خورکا	*Khūrka*	خار پشت	*Khār-pusht*	Hedgehog	
لاک پشت	*Lāk-pusht*	سنگ پشت	*Saug-pasht*	Tortoise	
سَبول	*Subūl*	کک	*Kak*	Flea	
کلم	*Kelem*	کرم	*Kerm*	Worm	
چیچیره مار	*Chīchīrehmār*	سوسمار	*Sūsmār*	Lizard	

NOUNS—*Contd.*

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
لنتی	***Lenti***	مار	***Mār***	Serpent	
مَرداو	***Murdāu***	مُرداب	***Murdāb***	Lake	
شِه	***Sheh***	مِه	***Meh***	Fog	
جاف	***Jaf***	جَو	***Jau***	Barley	
مِرس	***Mers***	مِس	***Mis***	Copper	
تَوِستان	***Tavistān***	تابستان	***Tābistān***	Summer	
هِست	***Hest***	مرطوب	***Martūb***	Damp	

ADJECTIVES.

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
خوروم	*Khūrūm*	خوب	*Khūb*	Excellent	
پور	*Pūr*	پُر	*Pur*	Full	
مُوس بکوده	*Mūs-bikūdeh*	پوسیده	*Pūsīdeh*	Rotten	
شِندرِه	*Shendreh*	پاره پاره	*Pāreh pāreh*	In fragments	
هو	*Hū*	خائف	*Khāif*	Afraid	
اب جِکفته	*Ab-jekufteh*	آب افتادن	*Āb-uftādeh*	Stagnant (water)	
قشنگ	*Kashang*	خوشگل	*Khūshgil*	Pretty	
بُچُک	*Buchuk*	چمباتمه نشسته	*Chambātmeh nishasteh*	Squatting	
میچ میله	*Mīch-mīleh*	بیهوده	*Bīhūdeh*	Unmannerly	
سِر	*Ser*	سیر	*Sīr*	Satiated	
ویشتا	*Wishtā*	گُرسنه	*Gurisneh*	Hungry	
فگردسته	*Fagurdasteh*	به پشت افتاده	*Bi-pusht uftādeh*	Fallen on the back	
واگردسته	*Wāgurdasteh*	برو افتاده	*Birū uftādeh*	Fallen facing	

VERBS.

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
آمٌون	*Āmun*	آمدن	*Āmadan*	Come	
شٌگون	*Shu-un*	رفتن	*Raftan*	Go	
نشتن	*Nishtan*	نشستن	*Nishastan*	Sit	
خفتن	*Khuftan*	خوابیدن	*Khwābīdan*	Sleep	
وِرِشتن	*Virishtan*	برخاستن	*Bar-khastan*	Rise	
کودن	*Kūdan*	کردن	*Kardan*	Do	
درخادن	*Dūkhādan*	صدا کردن	*Sadā kardan*	Shout	
اُسادن	*Usādān*	برداشتن	*Bardāshtan*	Raise	
واشادن	*Wāshādan*	حرکت دادن	*Hárakat dādan*	Move	
واخوردن	*Wākhūrdan*	نوشیدن	*Nushīdan*	Drink	
خوردن	*Khūrdan*	خوردن	*Khūrdan*	Eat	
جیویشتن	*Jīvīshtan*	گریختن	*Gurīkhtan*	Flee	
وادان	*Wādān*	وِل کردن	*Wel kardan*	Abandon	
واقوشتن	*Wākūshtan*	آب از چاه برداشتن	*Āb az chāh bardāshtan*	Draw water from the well.	

VERBS—*Contd.*

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
واگُردستن	*Wāgurdastan*	بر گشتن	*Bar-gashtan*	Return	
فگُردستن	*Fagurdastan*	بر پشت خوابیدن	*Bar pusht khwābīdan*	Sleep on the back	
ایسان	*Īsān*	ایستادن	*Īstādan*	Stand	*Cf.* Anglo-Saxon Standan.
فاندیرستن	*Fāndīristan*	نگاه کردن	*Nigāh kardan*	Gaze	
جُهفتن	*Juhuftan*	پنهان شدن	*Pinhān shudan*	To be hidden	
زِاِن	*Ze-en*	زدن	*Zadan*	Beat	
بوستن یا بُوَن	*Būstan* or *Bu-un*	بودن	*Būdan*	Be	
دُکودن	*Dukūdan*	پوشیدن	*Pūshīdan*	Hide	
اِشکنن	*Ishkenen*	شکستن	*Shikastan*	Break	
فارِسن	*Fārisen*	رسیدن	*Rasīdan*	Reach	
دکفتن	*Dakaftan*	افتادن	*Uftādan*	Fall	
واپُرسن	*Wāpursan*	پُرسیدن	*Pursīdan*	Ask	

VERBS—*Contd.*

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
هئِن	*He-en*	خریدن	*Kharidan*	Buy	
داِن	*De-en*	دیدن	*Dīdan*	See	
دَپرکستن	*Daparkastan*	غلفتاً از خواب بر خاستن	*Ghaflatan az* *khwāb bar-khāstan*	Somnambulate	
بَسَر نا آن	*Basarnāān*	اضافه کردن	*Iḍāfeh kardan*	Add to	
جیگفتن	*Jīguftan*	کم کردن	*Kam kardan*	Diminish	
واپَربوستن	*Wāparbūstan*	گم شدن	*Gum shudan*	To be lost	
پیدا کودن	*Paidā kūdan*	پیدا کردن	*Pāida kardan*	Find out	
دَپَرشتن	*Daparashtan*	تکیه دادن	*Takiyeh dādan*	Support	
بو بِن	*Būben*	سوزن نخ کردن	*Sūzan nakh kardan*	Thread the needles	
دَکَلستن	*Dakalastan*	ناگهان ریختن	*Nāgahān rīkhtan*	Fall suddenly	
فکودن	*Fakūdan*	ریختن	*Rīkhtan*	Pour	
برکشتن	*Barkashtan*	وارونه شدن	*Wārūneh shudan*	Capsize	
اونا	*Unān*	گذاشتن	*Guzāshtan*	Put	

VERBS—*Contd.*

Gilakī.	Persian.	Meaning.	REMARKS.
جَلَهستن *Jalahastan*	آویزان شدن *Āwīzān shudan*	Hang	Mostly by means of hand.
دَلَهستن *Dalahastan*	آویزان شدن *Āwīzān shudan*	Hang	
ایسه یا یه *Īseh* or *Yeh*	است *Ast*	Is	
نَنَه *Naneh*	نیست *Nīst*	Is not	

ADVERBS (صفات فعل).

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
أ كهِ	*Akeh*	كَى	*Kay*	When	
حَسَة	*Hasah*	حالا	*Hālā*	Now	
اُو وقتان	*U-waktāṇ*	آنوقتها	*Ānwakthā*	At that time	
بى	*Bī*	بدون	*Bīdūn*	Without	
كويَه	*Kūyeh*	كجا	*Kujā*	Where	
آيِه	*Āyeh*	اينجا	*Īnjā*	Here	
او يا	*Ūyā*	آنجا	*Ānjā*	There	
اُو رِه	*Ūrah*	آنطرف	*Ānṭaraf*	That side	
اَرَه	*Arah*	اينطرف	*Īnṭaraf*	This side	
چى	*C̲h̲ī*	چه	*C̲h̲eh*	What	
هرچى	*Harc̲h̲ī*	هرچه	*Harc̲h̲eh*	Whatever	

Adverbial phrases.

Gīlakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	**Remarks.**
هُجور	*Hajūr*	همين جور	*Hamīn jūr*	In this way	
آن مانِسته	*An mānisteh*	مانند اين	*Mānind-i-īn*	Like this	
پچه پچه	*Pacheh-pacheh*	کم کم	*Kam kam*	Little by little	
شبانکي	*Shabānkī*	در تاريکي شب	*Dar tārīkī-i-shab*	In the darkness of night.	
وستَه	*Wasteh*	بس	*Bas*	Enough	

PREPOSITIONS.[1]

Gilakī.		Persian.		Meaning.	REMARKS.
بُوجُور	*Būjūr*	بالا	*Bālā*	Above	
جير	*Jīr*	زير	*Zīr*	Below	
ميان	*Miyān*	اندر	*Andar*	Inside	
جه	*Jeh*	از	*Az*	From	
پسه	*Paseh*	پس	*Pas*	Behind	*Cf.* Pahlevi (*Pūs*).
اَمَا	*Amā*	اَمّا	*Ammā*	But	
جلو	*Jilau*	پيش	*Pīsh*	Before	

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[1] In Gīlakī Prepositions are actually Postpositions. They are used after their objects.

	Gilakī.	Meaning.
آ کلا خایم	*A kulā khāyem*	I want this cap.
استکان میانِ قند دُکون	*Istikān-i-miyān kand dukūn*	Put sugar in the cup.
مِرا والانیدی	*Merā wālānīdī*	They suspend me.
آ کار را واکن	*A kār rā wākun*	Do this work.
اُونه دوخان	*Ūneh dūkhān*	Call him.
بِشُو	*Bishū*	Go.
نَشُو	*Nashū*	Don't go.
بِنِش	*Binish*	Sit down.
نَنِش	*Na-nish*	Don't sit.
موخفتو بوم کي شما بِشه بید	*Mū khuftū būm kī shumā bisheh bīd*	I was asleep when you had gone away.
تی نام چی یِهٔ ؟	*Tī nām chī yeh ?*	What is your name ?
کویِهٔ خائی بِشی ؟	*Kūyeh khāj bishī ?*	Where dost thou wish to go ?
جه کویِهٔ بامؤئی ؟	*Jeh kūyeh bāmūī ?*	From where comest thou ?
شما آکهٔ بامؤئیدی ؟	*Shumā akeh bāmūīdī ?*	When did you come ?

SENTENCES—*Contd.*

	Gīlakī.	Meaning.
ايتا كتاب مِرا فده	*Ītā kitāb merā fadeh*	Give me a book.
تو پول دری	*Tū pūl darī ?*	Hast thou money ?
تی وطن کویِه ایسه ؟	*Tī waṭan kūyeh īseh ?*	Where is thy native land ?
تي خانه كويِه ايسه ؟	*Ti khāneh kūyeh iseh*	Where is thy residence ?
مو خايم آ كار را بكن	*Mū khāyem akār rā bikūn*	I want you to do this work.
مو خايم آ كار بِبِه	*Mū khāyem a kār bi beh*	I want this work to be done.
هجور نِبِه	*Hajūr nebeh*	It will not be so.
مو فردا پلو خورم	*Mū fardā pulau khūram*	To-morrow I will take *Pulau*.[1]
آ خانه خوب ايسه	*A khāneh khūb īseh*	This house is good.

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[1] It is a Persian dish prepared with rice, clarified butter and some spices.

Gīlakī.	Meaning.
خالی تی قبر بیدینی تی همسایه قبر بدین *K͟hāī tī ḳabr bīdīnī tī hamsāyeh ḳabr bidīn*	If thou wishest to see thy tomb, see the tomb of thy neighbour; *i.e.*, take lessons from others in trouble.
خاخور گاچِه برارک شیلِه *K͟hāk͟hūr gāc͟heh barārek s͟hīleh*	If sister has done wrong brother is in fault too; *i.e.*, it requires two to make a quarrel.

A Specimen of Gīlakī Poetry.

Gīlakī.	Meaning.
من بدام دُکفتم تا بدیم تی زلفانهِ سیا چومهِ ***Man bi dām dukaftam tā bi dīm tī zulfāneh, Siyā C̲h̲ūmeh*** !	I fell into a trap when I saw thy tresses, O Black-eyed (sweet-heart) !
تی موگویا کمندِ رستم دستانهِ سیا چومهِ ***Tī mū gūyā kamand-i-Rustam dastāneh, Siyā C̲h̲ūmeh*** !	Thy hair (is) as though the lasso of Rustam, O Black-eyed (sweet-heart) !
اشهد بگفتم و بِبِستم حیرانهِ سیا چومهِ ***As̲h̲-had*** [1] ***bi guftam u bibistam ḥayrāneh, Siyā C̲h̲ūmeh*** !	"I bear witness ! " uttered I and became confounded, O Black-eyed (sweet-heart) !
چون بیدم زنگی با تیر و کمانهِ سیا چومهِ ***C̲h̲ūn bī-dam zangī bā tīr u kamāneh, Siyā C̲h̲ūmeh*** !	As if I saw a negro with arrow and bow, O Black-eyed (sweet-heart) !

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[1] It is an abridged form of the formula of the confession of faith in Islam which runs as أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَآ إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللّٰه (*Ash-hadu an-lā-ilāha ill-Allāh*). I bear witness that nothing deserves to be worshipped but Allah. It is sometimes, as here, used as an Interjection seeking help of Allah when confounded.

Gīlakī.

ایتا باغبان بو، ایتا باغ داشتی، ای روز بامو خو باغه
سرکشی بوکونه، بیده ایتا مردکه انه درون نیشته کرا انه
پیازنه، ایتا ایتا کندن دره ایتا سفرم اوشنترا پهنا کوده
ا پیازنه درکونه او سفره میان، باغبـان بوگوفته ''مردکه
دزدی باِه اشکاری به ؟ تو چره می پیازه کندان دری ؟''
دزده بوگوفته ''والله کبلائی من تقصیر نارم از اراشون دوبوم
باد زیادی دوبو باد مرا بره تاوداتی باغه درون من بیدم
چی‌بوکونم باد مرا بدره دیوار نزنه بی‌نیشتم بی‌گیفتم ا پیازه قایم
بداشتم باد از بسکه زیاد بو پیازا بکنده مرا با پیاز تاودا اوشنتر
من ایتا پیازه دیگر بی گیفتم هونم باد بکنده هتو هتو اه پیازنه
همه باد بکنده'' باغبان از دروغگوئی اه دزد تعجب بوکوده بوگوفته
''خاب مردای ان درست ا پیازنه باد بکنده اما اُشنه اه سفره میان
کی درکوده، هنم باده کاره ؟'' دزده را بمانسته بوگوفته والله اه فکرا
کودان دوبوم کي انا اه سفره میان که درکوده.''

Translation.

Ītā bāghbān bū. Ītā bāgh dāshtī. Ī rūz bāmū khū bāgha sarkashī būkūneh. Bīdeh ītā mardakeh aneh durūn nīshteh kirā ana piyāzaneh, ītā ītā kandan dareh ītā sufram ūshantarā pahnā kūdeh a piyāzānā dūkūneh ū sufreh miān. Bāghbān būgūfteh, " Mardakeh dūzdī be-ah ashkārī beh ? Tū charah mī pīyāzeh kandān darī ?" Dūzdah būgūfteh, " Wallāh Kablāī man taḳsīr nāram az arāshūn dūbūm bād ziādī dūbū bād marā bireh tāudātī bāgheh durūn man bīdam chī būkūnam bād marā bidareh dīwār nazaneh bīnīshtam bīgīftam a pīyāzīh ḳaim bīdāshtam, bād az baskeh ziyād bū pīyāzeh bikandeh marā bā pīyāz tāudā ūshantar, man ītā pīyāzeh dīgar bīgīftam hūnam bād bikandeh, hatū hatū piyāzaneh hameh bād kandeh." Bāghbān az durūghgūī-i-ah dūzd t'ajjub būkūdeh būgūfteh, " Khāb mardāī an dūrūst a piyāzane bād bikandeh, ammā ushaneh ah sufreh miān kī dūkūdek, hanam bādeh kārah ?" Duzdeh wā bimānisteh būgūfteh, " Wallāh ah fikrā kūdān dūbūm kī anā ah sūfreh miān kih dūkūdeh."

Translation.

(Once there) was a gardener. (He) had a garden. One day (he) came to his garden to supervise. (He) found a man sitting in his garden where onions were cultivated, (who) was digging out onions one by one and putting them in his table cloth spread close by. The gardener said, "O man, can theft be more manifest than this? Why do you dig out my onions ?" The thief said, "Upon Allah! Kablai,[1] I have no fault; I was walking along when a strong wind began to blow and threw me out of the way into the garden. I was (just) thinking what to do that the wind may not dash me against (any) door and wall. I sat down and firmly caught hold of an onion plant. As the wind was too strong it pushed me aside with the plant rooted out (in my hand). I caught hold of another plant. The wind rooted out that one too. In this way the wind rooted out all the onions." Being astonished at this falsehood of the thief the gardener said, "Well, O man, right you are; the wind rooted out these onions, but who put the onions in the table cloth? Is this also the action of the wind ?" The thief laughed and said, "Upon Allah, I was myself lost in this thought as to who had put them in this table cloth."

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[1] Kablai is the abbreviated and colloquial form of 'Karbalai,' a title given to a man who pays a visit to Kerbala, the place where the Holy Imām Husayn was martyred.